

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 L-02 EB-07 FAA-00 OES-05 EPA-04

INT-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 SAI-01 CEQ-01

SSO-00 INRE-00 DOTE-00 /047 R

FSE

DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV RPARDON:IMD

APPROVED BY EUR/SOV SPOLANSKY

FAA:BHAMM (SUBS)

EB/OA/AVP:JGORDON (SUBS)

EUR/SOV:PLYNN (SUBS)

EPA:BBROWN INFO

INTR/FWS:RSKOOG INFO

OES/ENP/EN:GBURKE INFO

----- 121621

O 041918Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, OCLR, US, UR

SUBJECT: US-USSR ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT-MUSK OXEN-SOVIET  
FLIGHT

1. DEPT. APRIL 4 TRANSMITTED TO SOVIET EMBASSY AIDE-MEMOIRE  
ON SOVIET FLIGHTS TO BETHEL, ALASKA FOR TRANSPORT OF MUSK  
OXEN WHICH RESPONDS TO SOVIET EMBASSY NOTE NO. 12 DATED  
MARCH 31.

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2. SOVIET NOTE INFORMED DEPT. THAT QUOTE AEROFLOT UNQUOTE  
PLANS TO CARRY OUT FOUR QUOTE CHARTER UNQUOTE FLIGHTS WITH

FIRST AN-12 AIRCRAFT ARRIVING BETHEL APRIL 12 AT 2000 HOURS (GREENWICH TIME), AND DEPARTING BETHEL 2300 HOURS SAME DAY (GREENWICH TIME) ARRIVING SHMIDT AIRPORT, USSR 1:45 HOURS APRIL 13. ADDITIONAL FLIGHTS TO BETHEL ARE PLANNED, AT IDENTICAL TIMES, APRIL 13, 14 AND 15.

3. SOVIET NOTE IGNORES MATTER OF US ESCORT CREW AND WHERE IT MAY BOARD SOVIET PLANE. SINCE SOVIET NOTE PROPOSED NON-STOP FLIGHT FROM SHMIDT AIRPORT TO BETHEL, SHMIDT ONLY PLACE FOR US ESCORT CREW TO ENPLANE BEFORE SOVIET AIRCRAFT ENTERS US AIRSPACE. THREE MAN US ESCORT (NAMES IN TEXT OF OUR NOTE BELOW) PLAN ARRIVE MOSCOW APRIL 9 AT 2030 HOURS ON AEROFLOT FLIGHT FROM LONDON. THEY WILL DEPART US IN AFTERNOON OF APRIL 8, SO VISAS MUST BE ISSUED HERE AT LATEST NOON TUESDAY APRIL 8. EMBASSY REQUESTED APPROACH MFA TO INSURE THEIR TIMELY AUTHORIZATION OF VISA ISSUANCE AND THE FACILITATION OF THE US ESCORT CREW TRAVEL FROM MOSCOW TO SHMIDT AIRPORT.

4. TEXT OF US AIDE-MEMOIRE AS FOLLOWS

"THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE REFERS TO AIDE MEMOIRE NUMBER 12 OF THE EMBASSY OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC DATED MARCH 31, 1975 REQUESTING PERMISSION FOR FLIGHTS TO BETHEL, ALASKA FROM SHMIDT AIRPORT TO TRANSPORT 40 MUSK OXEN IN IMPLEMENTATION OF THE US-USSR AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT APPROVES THE PROPOSED FLIGHTS ON THE ROUTING AND AT THE ALTITUDE SPECIFIED. A FINAL FLIGHT PLAN MAY BE TRANSMITTED AFTER DEPARTURE FROM SHMIDT AIRPORT.

THE ESCORT CREW WILL DEPART THE UNITED STATES ON APRIL 8 AND ARRIVE IN MOSCOW APRIL 9. THE DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE THE ASSISTANCE OF THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT IN FACILITATING THEIR TRAVEL FROM MOSCOW TO SHMIDT AIRPORT WHERE THEY WILL ENPLANE. THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES ESCORT ARE:

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PILOT: -KOSTAL, YAROSLAV

NAVIGATOR: -TIHOMIROV, DIMITRY

RADIO OPERATOR: -COTILLO, JOSEPH

THEIR VISA APPLICATIONS ARE TRANSMITTED HERewith.

THE DEPARTMENT IS ALSO TRANSMITTING HERewith INFOR-  
MATION ON BETHEL AIRPORT AND ITS RADIO COMMUNICATIONS  
FACILITIES. THE U.S. ESCORT CREW WILL PROVIDE  
OTHER APPROPRIATE AERONAUTICAL AND TERMINAL INFORMATION  
TO INCLUDE PILOT TO METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE AND AIR RESCUE  
SERVICE FREQUENCIES IN ORDER TO ENSURE A SAFE OPERATION.  
THE DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE THE EMBASSY'S PROVIDING  
RADIO COMMUNICATIONS INFORMATION FOR THE SHMIDT AIRPORT  
TO ENABLE U.S. OFFICIALS AT BETHEL TO TRANSMIT DIRECTLY  
TO SHMIDT AIRPORT PERSONNEL INFORMATION ON WEATHER AND  
LANDING CONDITIONS AT BETHEL PRIOR TO THE TAKE-OFF OF THE  
PLANES FROM SHMIDT AIRPORT.

JP-1 FUEL IS NOT AVAILABLE AT BETHEL AIRPORT. IT IS THE  
UNDERSTANDING OF U.S. AVIATION SPECIALISTS THAT THE AN-  
12 AIRCRAFT HAS SUFFICIENT FUEL CAPACITY FOR ROUND TRIP  
FLIGHT WITHOUT REFUELING. THE DEPARTMENT NOTES IT WOULD  
BE VERY EXTENSIVE FOR THE SOVIET SIDE IF IT WERE NECESSARY  
TO TRANSPORT JP-1 FUEL TO BETHEL FOR REFUELING OR TIME  
CONSUMING IF A REFUELING STOP AT ANCHORAGE WERE NECESSARY  
DURING THE RETURN PORTION OF THE FLIGHT FROM BETHEL  
TO SHMIDT AIRPORT. THE DEPARTMENT THEREFORE DOES NOT  
PLAN TO TAKE STEPS TO PROVIDE FOR REFUELING UNLESS IT  
RECEIVES A FURTHER REQUEST FROM APPROPRIATE SOVIET AUTHORI-  
TIES ON THIS MATTER.

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE WOULD APPRECIATE THE PROMPT  
ISSUANCE OF VISAS FOR THE U.S. ESCORT CREW AND RESPONSE  
TO ITS REQUEST FOR RADIO COMMUNICATIONS INFORMATION FOR  
SHMIDT AIRPORT." INGERSOLL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**TAGS:** SENV, OCLR, US, UR  
**To:** MOSCOW  
**Type:** TE  
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